

**Ancient Literary Genres**

Code: 104198  
ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2503702 Ancient Studies	FB	1	2

The proposed teaching and assessment methodology that appear in the guide may be subject to changes as a result of the restrictions to face-to-face class attendance imposed by the health authorities.

**Contact**

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**Use of Languages**

Principal working language: catalan (cat)  
Some groups entirely in English: No  
Some groups entirely in Catalan: Yes  
Some groups entirely in Spanish: No

**Prerequisites**

No previous knowledge required.

**Objectives and Contextualisation**

- This subject belongs to the field "Literature" which wants to draw attention to the importance of the literary text as an essential source of information to learn about the history and civilization of Greece and Rome.
- The aim of this subject is offering a general scope of Greek and Latin literature, based on the classification by genres of their works and authors.
- There will be a general and basic presentation of the topical and formal characteristics of the main literary genres of Antiquity, as well as offering, as far as possible, a diachronic vision of their evolution.

**Competences**

- Be able to express oneself orally and in writing in the specific language of history, archaeology and philology, both in one's own languages and a third language.
- Interpret texts written in Latin and Greek to understand the history and Classical civilisations.
- Interrelate linguistic, historical and archaeological knowledge of the ancient world with knowledge of other areas of the humanities, mainly ancient literature, philosophy and art.
- Students must be capable of communicating information, ideas, problems and solutions to both specialised and non-specialised audiences.
- Students must develop the necessary learning skills to undertake further training with a high degree of autonomy.

**Learning Outcomes**

1. Analyse texts belonging to different genres, taking account of historical, social and cultural context.
2. Apply the basic theoretical concepts to the comprehension of narrative, poetic and dramatic texts.
3. Apply the different instruments of literary analysis to different types of works.

4. Autonomously searching, selecting and processing information both from structured sources (databases, bibliographies, specialized magazines) and from across the network.
5. Discern the singularities of Greek literary production in comparison with its Latin counterpart, and vice versa.
6. Effectively communicating and applying the argumentative and textual processes to formal and scientific texts.
7. Identify and explain the fundamental principles of the process of literary communication in each one of the genres.
8. Preparing an oral and written discourse in the corresponding language in a proper and organized way.
9. Present the formal and thematic characteristics of the works of literary creation of classical antiquity.
10. Recognise the definition and the characteristics of the various literary genres on the basis of the metaliterary texts and identify their exemplification in particular works.
11. identify the influence of the classical literary genres in texts of the post-classical European literary tradition.

## Content

### Program

UNIT 1. Introduction to the literary genres of the Graeco-Roman Classical world. - Concept of literature in Classical Antiquity: conceptual, chronological and geographical limits. - The role of literature in the framework of Greek and Roman societies. - The literary genres in Classical Antiquity. - Classification criteria.

UNIT 2. Epic

UNIT 3. Historiography

UNIT 4. The fable, the novel and the story

UNIT 5. Oratory and rhetoric

UNIT 6. Tragedy and comedy

UNIT 7. Lyric poetry

UNIT 8. The elegiac poetry and the epigram

UNIT 9. Satire

UNIT 10: The bucolic genre

UNIT 11. Epistolography

UNIT 12. Christian literature

UNIT 13. The didactic literature. The scientific, technical and encyclopedic literature

Students will have to write an assignment about a topic transversally dealt by Greek and Latin authors. The following is an indicative list of topics that could be addressed:

### Proposed topics:

- the expression of doubt and courage in the heroes and heroines (epic and tragedy)
- the hospitality and welcome of the stranger (epic and tragedy)
- the inexorable passing of time (lyric and elegy)
- day and night in love (lyric and elegy)
- the symposium and the theme of wine (lyric and elegy, philosophy)
- *Odi et amo*: jealousy and admiration in love (lyric and elegy)
- mothers and children (epic, epigram, tragedy)

- common places about women (comedy)
- gods and oracles in human fate (historiography)
- theft, looting, robbery and justice (oratory and poetry)
- trips and adventures of heroes and heroines (novel, wonderful journeys, ...)
- the death and the journey beyond (epic, elegy, epigram)
- love as a disease (lyric)
- the ship of the state (lyric, elegy, history, oratory)

## Methodology

Classroom activities or directed will be divided into two categories:

1. Follow-up of the exhibitions of topics and texts' commentary in the classroom. This activity will be carried out with the support of an anthology of Greek and Latin literary texts that will serve as a starting point for the exhibition and the commentary of the formal and thematic characteristics of each of the literary genres included in the course program. The anthology will be available in the Moodle space of the Virtual Campus.
2. Participation in the follow-up activities proposed by the professor in the classroom.

In addition, the student will have to carry out a course work for which s/he will have to participate in tutorials that will be considered supervised activities for the choice of the topic (see Content section) and the choice of texts that will be object of study.

The accomplishment of the competences of the subject will be achieved largely with the independent work of each student who will be oriented to:

1. The preparation of the subject's assignment.
2. Complementary texts reading, both of classic authors as well as modern bibliography on the themes and works studied in class.

Annotation: Within the schedule set by the centre or degree programme, 15 minutes of one class will be reserved for students to evaluate their lecturers and their courses or modules through questionnaires.

## Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Follow-up of the topics exposition and in-class texts' commentary	42	1.68	2, 1, 5, 8, 11, 10
Participation in in-class activities	2	0.08	2, 3, 1, 8, 9, 6, 7
Type: Supervised			
Orientation tutorials for the selection and preparation of the subject's assignment	2	0.08	4, 5, 8, 6
Type: Autonomous			
Assignment elaboration	30	1.2	2, 3, 4, 1, 5, 8, 9, 6, 11, 7, 10
Complementary texts reading (primary and secondary sources) and units study	70	2.8	

## Assessment

The evaluation is a continuous process, which must allow students to know their academic progress throughout the course. Below are the assessment activities that will be taken into account for the qualification of each student:

#### Evaluation activities

1. Students will have to do two theoretical and practical tests that will be used to evaluate the degree of achievement of the philological contents and skills studied in class. Each of them will have a weight of 30% of the note.
2. At the beginning of the course, teachers will indicate a compulsory reading (to determinate), which will be supervised by a reading text equivalent to 10% of the final grade.
3. Each student will have to do a work on a topic that has been handled by Greek and Latin authors in some of the genres studied. This work will be worth 30% of the note.

In the event that tests or exams cannot be taken onsite, they will be adapted to an online format made available through the UAB's virtual tools (original weighting will be maintained). Homework, activities and class participation will be carried out through forums, wikis and/or discussion on Teams, etc. Lecturers will ensure that students are able to access these virtual tools, or will offer them feasible alternatives.

In the event of a student committing any irregularity that may lead to a significant variation in the grade awarded to an assessment activity, the student will be given a zero for this activity, regardless of any disciplinary process that may take place. In the event of several irregularities in assessment activities of the same subject, the student will be given a zero as the final grade for this subject.

#### Procedure for the review of qualifications

Each time a mark is published, the teachers will communicate to the students the date and place of review of the activity evaluated in the Moodle space.

#### Reassessment process

- In order to be entitled to participate in the reassessment activities, the student must have been previously evaluated in a set of activities whose weight equals to a minimum of 2/3 of the total score (ca. 66.6 %).
- To be able to participate in the reassessment process the student must have obtained a minimum mark of 3.5 on the average grade of the subject.
- In case of not having passed the set (and if it reaches a minimum of 3.5 points), there will be a reassessment test on the theoretical content of the subject. The maximum grade for the reassessment will be 5 points.

### Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
1st exam	30%	1.5	0.06	2, 3, 1, 5, 8, 9, 6, 11, 7, 10
2nd exam	30%	1.5	0.06	2, 3, 1, 5, 8, 9, 6, 11, 7, 10
Reading test	10%	1	0.04	2, 3, 1, 8, 9, 6, 11, 7
Subject's assignment	30%	0	0	2, 3, 4, 1, 5, 8, 9, 6, 11, 7, 10

### Bibliography

Ancient Greek Literature Handbooks

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## **Software**

No specific software required.